

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 4 has been amended, as indicated below. New Claims 19-21 have been added as indicated below.

Claims 1-3, and 5-18 of the present application remain in the application as previously presented.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Previously Presented) A shipping management computer system, said computer system programmed to:
in response to each respective request by each respective particular user of a plurality of users to ship a particular respective parcel, wherein each respective request comprises a first address and a second address, determine a respective potential cross-comparison delivery schedule, said respective cross-comparison delivery schedule comprising a plurality of respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedules to ship the particular respective parcel from the first address to the second address, wherein each respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule corresponds to a respective particular delivery service of a plurality of delivery services offered by a respective particular carrier of a plurality of carriers, wherein the shipping management computer system is accessed by each respective particular user via a communications network using a respective user client computer device.
2. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 1, said computer system further programmed to:

calculate a respective shipping rate for each said respective particular delivery service to ship the particular respective parcel according to the respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule.

3. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 2, said computer system further programmed to:

in response to a user request by a respective particular user for a shipping rate and delivery schedule comparison, generate a display of an online interactive prompt to a display monitor configured with the respective user client computer device of the respective particular user, said online interactive prompt comprising a simultaneous cross-comparison of said respective shipping rates, the display of each respective shipping rate corresponding to a display of the respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule for the respective particular delivery service to ship the particular respective parcel.

4. (Currently Amended) A method using a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels shipped by any one of a plurality of carriers, the method comprising:

in response to each respective delivery schedule information request by each respective particular user of a plurality of users, wherein each respective delivery schedule information request comprises at least a respective first postal code and a respective second postal code, determine a respective potential cross-comparison delivery schedule, said respective cross-comparison delivery schedule comprising a plurality of respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedules for a respective shipment from the respective first postal code to the respective second postal code, wherein each respective service-specific, carrier specific delivery schedule corresponds to a particular delivery service of a plurality of services offered by each carrier of a plurality of carriers, wherein the computer system is accessed by each respective particular user via a communications network using a respective user client computer device.

5. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 4, said method further comprising:

calculating a respective shipping rate for the respective shipment by each said particular delivery service from the respective first postal code to the respective second postal code, according to the respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule.

6. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5, said method further comprising:

in response to a user request by a respective particular user for a shipping rate and delivery schedule comparison, generate a display of an online interactive prompt to a display monitor configured with the respective user client computer device of the respective particular user, said online interactive prompt comprising a simultaneous cross-comparison of said respective shipping rates, the display of each respective shipping rate corresponding to a display of the respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule for the respective shipment from the respective first postal code to the respective second postal code.

7. (Previously Presented) A computer program product embodying computer program instructions for execution by a computer system for managing shipping of a plurality of parcels shipped by any one of a plurality of carriers, the computer program product comprising:

a set of program instructions for determining, in response to each respective delivery schedule information request by each respective particular user of a plurality of users, wherein each respective delivery schedule information request comprises at least a respective first postal code and a respective second postal code, a respective potential cross-comparison delivery schedule, said respective cross-comparison delivery schedule comprising a plurality of respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedules for a respective shipment from the respective first postal code to the respective

second postal code, wherein each respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule corresponds to a particular delivery service of a plurality of services offered by a particular carrier of a plurality of carriers, wherein the computer system is accessed by each respective particular user via a communications network using a respective user client computer device.

8. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 7, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for calculating a respective shipping rate for the respective shipment by each said particular delivery service from the respective first postal code to the respective second postal code according to the respective service-specific carrier-specific, delivery schedule.

9. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of Claim 8, said computer program product further comprising:

a set of program instructions for generating, in response to a user request by a respective particular user for a shipping rate and delivery schedule comparison, a display of an online interactive prompt to a display monitor configured with the respective user client computer device of the respective particular user, said online interactive prompt comprising a simultaneous cross-comparison of said respective shipping rates, the display of each respective shipping rate corresponding to a display of the respective service-specific carrier-specific delivery schedule for the respective shipment from the respective first postal code to the respective second postal code.

10. (Previously Presented) A shipping management computer system configured for:

allowing a user to request a package delivery service by providing shipping specifications;

receiving said shipping specifications from said user;

identifying, from a plurality of carriers, a subset of carriers based on said shipping specifications, each of said subset of carriers being capable of satisfying said shipping specifications by providing said package delivery service to said user;

identifying a first carrier from said subset of carriers and a first set of shipment types provided by said first carrier;

determining a first set of delivery schedules according to which said first carrier would be able to satisfy said shipping specifications, each one of said first set of delivery schedules corresponding to at least one of said first set of shipment types and comprising a delivery date and a delivery time;

calculating a first set of service charges by said first carrier, each one of said first set of service charges calculated based upon at least one of said first set of shipment types provided by said first carrier;

displaying to the user said first set of delivery schedules, said first set of service charges, and said first set of shipment types;

identifying a second carrier from said subset of carriers and a second set of shipment types provided by said second carrier;

determining a second set of delivery schedules that said second carrier is capable of providing to said user, each one of said second set of delivery schedules corresponding to at least one of said second set of shipment types and comprising a delivery date and a delivery time;

calculating a second set of service charges by said second carrier, each one of said second set of service charges calculated based upon at least one of said second set of shipment types provided by said second carrier; and

displaying to the user said second set of delivery schedules, said second set of service charges, and said second set of shipment types.

11. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 10, wherein said shipping specifications comprise a package weight, a package size, an origin and a destination.

12. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 11, wherein said shipping specifications further comprise a shipping date.

13. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 10, wherein said first set of shipment types comprise ground shipment, next-day-air shipment and express shipment.

14. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 1, wherein the respective potential cross-comparison delivery schedule comprises a respective delivery date and a respective delivery time for each respective particular delivery service of the plurality of delivery services offered by each respective particular carrier of the plurality of carriers at which to deliver the particular respective parcel.

15. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 14, said computer system further programmed to:

calculate a respective shipping rate for each respective particular delivery service of the plurality of services offered by each respective particular carrier of the plurality of carriers for delivering the particular respective parcel.

16. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 15, said computer system further programmed to:

in response to a user request by a respective particular user for a shipping rate and delivery schedule comparison, generate a display of an online interactive prompt to a display monitor configured with the respective user client computer device of the respective particular user, said online interactive prompt comprising a simultaneous cross-comparison of said respective shipping rates for the plurality of services offered by the plurality of carriers for delivering the particular respective parcel, the display of each respective shipping rate corresponding to the respective delivery date and the respective delivery time

associated with the respective particular delivery service offered by the respective particular carrier to deliver the particular respective parcel.

17. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 1, wherein each respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule corresponds to a schedule for a particular delivery service offered by a particular carrier to deliver the particular respective parcel.

18. (Previously Presented) The shipping management computer system of Claim 1, wherein said respective cross-comparison delivery schedule comprises a respective service-specific, carrier-specific delivery schedule for each particular delivery service of the plurality of delivery services offered by each carrier of the plurality of carriers, wherein each said particular delivery service would provide delivery of the particular respective parcel.

19. (New) The shipping management computer system of Claim 10, wherein said first set of delivery schedules comprises:

- a delivery schedule according to which said first carrier would be able to satisfy said shipping specifications via a first shipment type; and

- a delivery schedule according to which said first carrier would be able to satisfy said shipping specifications via a second shipment type, said second shipment type being different from said first shipment type.

20. (New) The shipping management computer system of Claim 19, wherein said second set of delivery schedules comprises:

- a delivery schedule according to which said second carrier would be able to satisfy said shipping specifications via said first shipment type.

21. (New) The shipping management computer system of Claim 20, wherein said second set of delivery schedules further comprises:

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a delivery schedule according to which said second carrier would be able to satisfy said shipping specifications via said second shipment type.